INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/EP 03/13501

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IRC 7 • C10B49/00 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) C10B C10J B01J IPC 7 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category ° US 2 607 666 A (MARTIN HOMER Z) 19 August 1952 (1952-08-19) 1-10. X 14-19 column 4, line 72 -column 5, line 4 column 5, line 26 - line 33 column 5, line 53 - line 62; figure 1; example 14-19 US 4 377 466 A (WALLMAN PER H) Χ 22 March 1983 (1983-03-22) column 4, line 44 - line 64; figures 2,3 US 2 874 095 A (FRANKLIN STRINGER RICHARD 14-19 Х ET AL) 17 February 1959 (1959-02-17) figure 2 -/--Patent family members are listed in annex. X Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. IX I Special categories of cited documents: "I" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invertion cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 2 1 05 2004 6 May 2004 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the fSA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 MÅRTEN HULTHEN / ELY

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